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I, JANENE PEISKER, MANAGER EXAMINATION SUPPORT AND SALES hereby certify that annexed is a true copy of the Provisional specification in connection with Application No. 2002953055 for a patent by MR PETER DYER as filed on 29 November 2002.

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JANENE PEISKER

MANAGER EXAMINATION SUPPORT

AND SALES

P/00/009 28/5/91 Regulation 3.2

ORIGINAL AUSTRALIA

Patents Act 1990

PROVISIONAL SPECIFICATION

Invention Title: "Memory Aid (Case B)"

The invention is described in the following statement:

"Memory Aid (Case B)"

Field of the invention

This invention relates to a memory aid.

Background

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It is often the case that due to temporary memory lapses a person is unable to remember a particular plece of information, such as the name of a person, town or location, the name of a product or the like item of information. In such instances it has been found that if a clue can be given, which provides an indication of the letters of that name that the remainder of the name will quickly follow.

10 Disclosure of the Invention

Accordingly the invention resides in a memory aid comprising a set of a display face having a plurality of display zones, each display zone adapted to provide a display independently of the other display zones, each display zone capable of sequentially displaying the letters of an alphabet.

15 According to one embodiment the display zones are mechanically operated.

According to another embodiment the display zones are electronically operated display devices. According to a preferred feature of the embodiment a control means is provided to enable the display at each display zone to sequentially display the letters and to maintain the display of a selected letter. According to a preferred feature of the embodiment the control means includes an operator controlled first switch whereby the letter displayed can be changed sequentially. According to a preferred feature of the embodiment the control means is adapted to cause the display zones to be activated sequentially. According to a preferred feature of the embodiment the control means includes an operator controlled second switch whereby the display zone to be controlled by the first switch can be changed. According to an alternative preferred feature of the embodiment each display zone is controlled by a separate first switch. According to one embodiment each first switch

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comprises a pair of switches where each switch is able to activate the display zones to sequentially display the letters in opposite order to the other switch.

Accordingly the Invention also resides in a memory aid comprising a set of display elements each having a display face, the display elements associated with a display area having a plurality of display zones the display zones being in one to one correspondence with the display faces, whereby each display element is independently moveable relative to display zone to cause the display face to be moved past the display zone, each display zone bearing the letters of an alphabet and wherein each letter of a display face can be independently and selectively viewed at the display zone.

According to the preferred feature of the invention each of the display elements comprise a disc. According to a preferred feature of the previous feature the display face comprises the axial face of the disc. According to an alternative preferred feature the display face comprises the radial face of the disc. According to a preferred feature the discs are concentrically supported. According to one embodiment where the disc are concentrically supported and the display face comprises the axial face, the discs are of differing diameters and the display face is defined by an annular zone around the outer perimeter of the disc.

According to a preferred feature of the invention the display elements each comprise a disc with the display face comprising the axial face, said discs being mounted in side by side relationship and the display zone overlapping the rotation path of the adjacent discs.

According to the preferred feature of the Invention the display elements comprise elongate elements which are in side by side relationship, the display element being slidable with respect to each other, with a display face comprising the adjacent portions of the display elements.

The invention will be more fully understood in the light of the following description of several specific embodiments.

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Brief Description of the Drawings

The description is made with reference to the accompanying drawing of which:

Figure 1 is an exploded view of a memory aid according to the first embodiment;

Figure 2 is a plan view of the display aid according to the first embodiment at which the outermost display element is utilised;

Figure 3 is a plan view of the first embodiment in which the intermediate display element is utilised;

Figure 4 is a plan view of a memory aid according to the first embodiment in which the innermost display element is utilised; and

10 Figure 5 is a plan view of a further embodiment.

Detailed Description of Specific Embodiments

The first embodiment as shown in Figures 1 to 4 relates to a memory aid which can be utilised in order to attempt to recollect a name which can be the name of a person, a place, a product or the like.

15 The memory aid comprises a support which is formed from a laminar or sheet element which is relatively rigid and which is folded along a central line to provide a front panel 13 and a rear panel 15. The panels are each provided with an aperture 17 and the apertures of each panel are aligned and located towards an outer edge of the support. The support includes a display zone 19 which comprises a rectangular aperture formed in the front panel 13.

The front and rear panels 13 and 15 rotatably receive between them a set of three discs 21, 23 and 25 which are supported at their centres 22, 24 and 26 from a pivot pin 27a which receivable in the apertures 17, 22, 24 and 26 to enable the discs to be concentrically and rotatably supported between the panels 13 and 15. the pivot pin 27a is associated with a retention washer 27b which will engage the pin at the underside of the support. The discs 21, 23 and 25 are of differing diameters such

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that when they are stacked one upon the other as illustrated at Figures 2, 3 and 4 at least the outer annular perimeter of each disc can be observed. The outer annular portions 29, 31 and 33 which are exposed when the discs are stacked one upon the other comprise the display faces of each of the discs. The display zone 19 in the upper panel 13 of the support is located relative to the pivot apertures 17 such that a portion of the display face of each disc is observable through the display zone 19.

Each of the display faces are divided into segments which bear a letter of the alphabet. In the case of the display face 29 of the larger disc 21 the letters of the alphabet are ordered according to their order within the alphabet. In the case of the display face 31 of the intermediate disc 23 the letters are grouped such that the vowels and consonants are separated whereby the vowels are grouped according to their position within the alphabet while the consonants are ordered according to their relative ranking according to use. In the case of the display face 33 of the smallest disc 25 the letters are ordered on the display face in the same manner as the letters are ordered on the display face in the same manner as the letters are ordered on the display face of the intermediate disc 23.

As a result of the mounting of the discs within the support 11 and their interaction of each of the display faces with the display zone, the letters on each of the display faces can be sequentially indexed past the display zone such that they can be viewed at the display zone to provide a full range of combinations of three letters of the alphabet.

In use and as shown at Figure 2 the outer display face 29 of the larger disc 21 is utilised to attempt to identify the first letter of the name being sought. As a result the letters of the outermost display face 29 are indexed past the display zone. As each letter (eg A) is located at the display zone the user can then think of names beginning with this letter (eg Andrew, Alfred etc). If these names do not appear to be appropriate the user will then move to the next letter (B) and think of names beginning with that letter (eg Barry, Brian etc). By rotating the display face 29 past the display zone and thinking of names that begin with each letter being viewed at the display zone the user may then be able to identify the name being sought or at least the first letter of that name. When the user has identified a letter (eg P) which appears to be relevant to the name being sought the user will then apply pressure using the thumb and index finger to the upper and lower panels 13 and 15 at the

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location 16a bearing the numeral "1" which overlies the display face 29 of the larger disc 21 and lock that disc in position and will then rotate the intermediate disc and move letters past the letter displayed on the outer display zone 29 (P). Since it is most usual that the second letter of a name will be a vowel the vowels can be moved past the letter P first. In the event that the user obtains a combination of letters on the outer and intermediate display faces 29 and 31 which appear to be relevant, the user would then lock the intermediate disc by applying pressure between the upper and lower faces 13 and 15 of the support using the index finger and thumb as shown at Figure 3 to the location 16b bearing the numeral "2". In order to identify the third letter of the name the smaller disc 25 is caused to rotate to move the display face past the display zone. Again since it is most likely that the third letter of a name will be a vowel, the vowels can be selectively moved past the display zone first.

It has been found as a result of personal trials by the inventor that usually only three letters or less need to be identified before it is possible is able to recall the name being sought.

It should be appreciated that the scope of the present invention need not be limited to the particular spatial relationship between the discs as illustrated in the embodiment and the discs need not be concentrically supported.

According to a second embodiment the display faces of each of the discs may be provided on the radial face of the discs and the display zone located such that the radial faces move past the display zone.

According to a third embodiment of the invention the display elements may be of an elongate configuration supported to be parallel to each other and slidable with respect to each other where the display faces comprise the adjacent portions of each of the elements.

A fourth embodiment as shown schematically at Figure 5 comprises an electronic equivalent of the previous embodiments in which the display comprises an electronic device having an LCD display 119. The display comprises a set of 3 display zones 121, 123 and 125 located in side by side transversely extending relationship where each display is independently activated by a first pair of switches 141, 143 an 145.

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Each display zone is adapted to display the letters in a sequential order corresponding to the order of the letters appearing on the respective display faces of the first embodiment described above. Each display zone is provided with a pair of first switches 141, 143 and 145 whereby the display at each zone can be selectively activated by the respective pair of switches to sequentially display the letters at that zone in accordance with the sequence relevant for that zone whereby the sequence can be scrolled forwardly or rearwardly by the respective switch of each pair.

In one form of the embodiment the letters are caused to be sequentially displayed each time the respective first switch is activated whereby the user by manipulating of each of the first switches is able to build up a set of 3 letters by sequentially activating the left hand display zone until the desired letter is found, then moving to the central display zone and then to the right hand display zone.

In another form of the embodiment the letters are caused to be sequentially displayed each for a period of time when the respective first switch is activated and will retain a desired letter on reactivation of the respective first switch. As a result the user by manipulating of each of the first switches is able to build up a set of 3 letters by sequentially activating the left hand display zone until the desired letter is found, then moving to the central display zone and then to the right hand display zone.

According to a fifth embodiment the device comprises one first switch and one second switch whereby the second switch is used to change the display zone which is to be activated by the first switch and once a display zone has been activated the letters are caused to be sequentially displayed at that display zone each time the first switch is activated. As a result the user is able to build up a set of 3 letters by sequentially activating the left hand display zone until the desired letter is found, then moving to the central display zone and then to the right hand display zone.

According to a sixth embodiment of the invention the device comprises a software package which can be installed into a computer which is able to provide a display similar to that of the first or second or third embodiment and where the scrolling of the display at each display zone and be controlled from the keyboard of the computer and/or my means of a mouse or equivalent accessory. In addition the

software may include a memory activating means whereby the user is able to retain the outcome of inquiries which a can be selectively displayed on a particular combination of letters being selected.

According to a seventh embodiment of the invention the device comprises a software package which can be installed into a computer which is able to provide a display similar to that of the fourth or fifth embodiment and where the scrolling of the display at each display zone and be controlled from the keyboard of the computer and/or my means of a mouse or equivalent accessory. In addition the software may include a memory activating means whereby the user is able to retain the outcome of inquiries which a can be selectively displayed on a particular combination of letters being selected.

Throughout the specification, unless the context requires otherwise, the word "comprise" or variations such as "comprises" or "comprising", will be understood to imply the inclusion of a stated integer or group of integers but not the exclusion of any other integer or group of integers.

It should be appreciated that the scope of the invention need not be limited to the particular scope of the embodiment or the applications referred to.

Dated this twenty ninth day of November 2002.

Peter Dyer Applicant

Wray & Associates
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Patent Attorneys for the Applicant(s)

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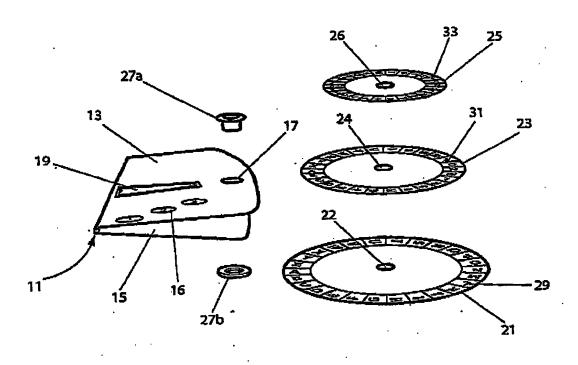
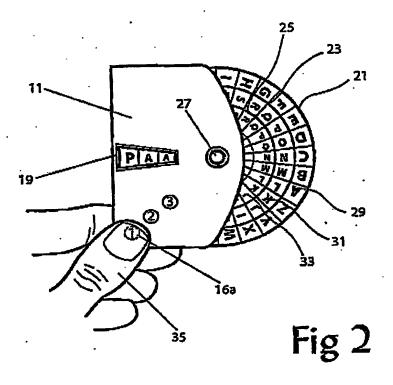


Fig 1

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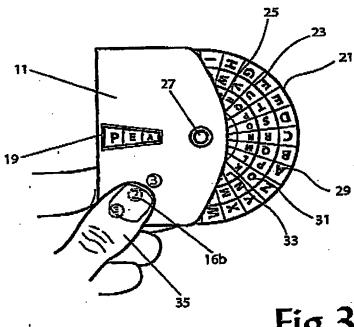
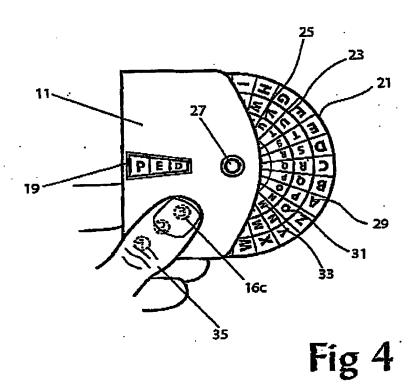
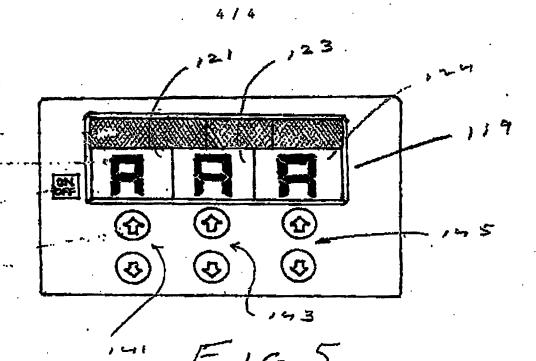


Fig 3

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